

Message Text

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SUBJ: GOVERNOR SCRANTON'S TALKS WITH MOJSOV/AIDE MEMOIRES ON
PUERTO RICO AND KOREA

REF: STATE 181798

1. SUMMARY: GOVERNOR SCRANTON MET YUGOSLAV DEPUTY FONMIN MOJSOV
IN BELGRADE JUL 23 AND DISCUSSED U.S. VIEW OF COLOMBO NON-
ALIGNED SUMMIT MEETING. AIDE-MEMOIRES ON KOREA AND PUERTO RICO
HANDLED OVER TO YUGOSLAVS. END SUMMARY.

2. GOVERNOR SCRANTON OPENED MEETING BY NOTING THE IMPORTANCE
OF YUGOSLAVIA AS A LEADER OF THE NONALIGNED WORLD. HE SAID THAT
ALTHOUGH NON-ALIGNMENT COULD BE AN IMPORTANT AND USEFUL FORCE IN
THE WORLD, HE HAD TWO CONCERNS ABOUT NONALIGNED. THE FIRST CONCERN
WAS THAT THE SOVIETS SEEMED TO BE MOVING IN A DIRECTION
OF TRYING TO USE NONALIGNED TO SERVE SOVIET IDEOLOGY AND POLITICAL
OBJECTIVES. THIS WAS EVIDENT FROM SOVIET
USE OF THE ZIONISM-IS-RACISM RESOLUTION AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY.
THE SECOND CONCERN WAS SOVIET USE OF OSTENSIBLY NONALIGNED CUBA
FOR THE
PURPOSE OF FURTHERING SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES. GOVERNOR
POINTED OUT THAT IF THE NON-ALIGNED REALLY WISHED TO REMAIN NON-
ALIGNED THEY SHOULD THINK ABOUT SOVIET/CUBAN ACTIONS. HE NOTED
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THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THESE POINTS WITH THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY

KISSINGER AND THAT THE USG WOULD CLOSELY WATCH THE COLOMBO SUMMIT, WHICH WOULD BE A REAL TEST OF WHETHER THE NONALIGNED ARE ACTUALLY NONALIGNED.

3. MOJSOV THANKED THE GOVERNOR FOR HIS CANDID STATEMENT AND WELCOMED THE POSITIVE WORDS HE HAD OFFERED ON NONALIGNMENT, SAYING A FEW YEARS AGO THERE HAD BEEN "ANOTHER APPROACH" BY YOUR GOVERNMENT" TO THE CONCEPT OF NONALIGNMENT. HE INDICATED HE SHARED SOME OF THE GOVERNOR'S CONCERN ABOUT THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND SAID IT WOULD FACE DIFFICULTIES IN THE FUTURE, NOT ONLY INTERNALLY BUT "FROM THE OUTSIDE". MOJSOV INDICATED YUGOSLAV RECOGNITION OF SOVIET AIMS VIS-A-VIS THE NONALIGNED AND ASSURED GOVERNOR SCRANTON THAT YUGOSLAVIA DID NOT SUPPORT "THE SOVIET GAME".

4. GOVERNOR SCRANTON THEN SAID THERE WERE OTHER SPECIFIC REASONS FOR CONCERN ABOUT TRENDS IN THE NONALIGNED MOVEMENT. HE NOTED THAT AFRICAN LEADERS HE HAD MET ON HIS RECENT TRIP HAD EXPRESSED WORRY ABOUT SOVIET/CUBAN ACTIONS. HE BROUGHT UP THE CUBAN POSITION ON PUERTO RICO AT THIS POINT, SAYING THAT IT WAS NO GOOD TO TRY TO HIDE BEHIND A CURTAIN OF NONALIGNED SOLIDARITY ON THE ISSUE. AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN THEN HANDED MOJSOV THE AIDE MEMOIRE ON PUERTO RICO (REFTEL) AND DISCUSSED ITS CONTENTS, READING ALOUD THE PASSAGE STATING THAT DISCUSSION OF PUERTO RICO AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES OR THE U.N. WOULD BE OFFENSIVE TO THE U.S. GOVERNOR SCRANTON REVIEWED THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE U.S.-PUERTO RICAN RELATIONSHIP AND SAID THAT U.S. HANDLING OF ITS TERRITORIES "WAS THE FINEST TESTIMONY TO SELF-DETERMINATION THAT COULD BE GIVEN" AND THAT PUERTO RICO WAS "HARDLY THE KIND OF COLONIALISM THAT AFRICAN AND ASIAN NATIONS TALK ABOUT." HE SAID THE CUBAN POSITION ON PUERTO RICO HAD NOTHING WHATSOEVER TO DO WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION, AND THEN INFORMED MOJSOV THAT THE U.S. DELEGATION WOULD WALK OUT IF PUERTO RICO CAME UP BEFORE THE UNGA.

5. GOVERNOR SCRANTON THEN MENTIONED THE QUESTION OF KOREA AND SPOKE OF THE SECRETARY'S JUL 22 SPEECH IN SEATTLE. AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN HANDED OVER THE AIDE-MEMOIRE ON KOREA AND ALSO COPIES OF THE TEXT OF THE SECRETARY'S SEATTLE SPEECH. GOVERNOR SCRANTON
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TOOK THE TEXT OF THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH AND READ TO MOJSOV THE PARAGRAPH BEGINNING "SPECIFICALLY, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO MEET WITH SOUTH KOREA, NORTH KOREA, AND THE PRC DURING THE COMING SESSION OF THE UNGA".

6. GOVERNOR SCRANTON ASKED RHETORICALLY WHY HAD WE COME UP WITH THE APPROACH? HE ANSWERED HIS OWN QUESTION, SAYING THAT THE USG IS NOT SURE EXACTLY WHAT SOLUTION COULD BE FOUND, BUT THE

PROPOSAL WAS MADE AS A NECESSARY WAY OF HANDLING THE ISSUE IN THE PERIOD OF TRANSITION BETWEEN THE NOW UNSATISFACTORY SITUATION TO A NEW ONE. HE CAUTIONED THAT THE COLOMBO SUMMIT "MUST NOT COME OUT WITH ANY RESOLUTIONS OR DOCUMENTS EMBODYING ULTRA-NORTH KOREAN RHETORIC". SILBERMAN

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